GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1979
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2016
Drinking Water
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tribals inhabiting forest land have to walk for many kilometres to fetch drinking water;
(b) if so, the number and percentage of such households in the country, State/UT-wise; and
(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that drinking water is available for the tribals in their forest villages?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) to (c) Rural drinking water supply is a State Subject. The Government of India assists the State Governments technically and financially through the Centrally Sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). While planning for rural drinking water supply schemes every effort is made to ensure that population residing in even the remote areas including that in forest land are covered. This Ministry under NRDWP has earmarked 10% funds especially for coverage of Scheduled Tribes (ST) dominated habitations and this includes tribal population living in forest land. States are regularly asked to prioritize the coverage of ST dominated habitations in remote and forest land. However, specific data for tribal population who inhabit forest land is not maintained in this Ministry.
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